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**United Kingdom-London: Financial management consultancy services
2015/S 210-381381**

Contract notice

Services

Directive 2004/18/EC

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name, addresses and contact point(s)

HM Treasury

1 Horse Guards Road

Contact point(s): HM Treasury

SW1A 2HQ London

UNITED KINGDOM

E-mail: supplier@crowncommercial.gov.uk, enablement@crowncommercial.gov.uk

Internet address(es):

General address of the contracting authority: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/hm-treasury>

Address of the buyer profile: <https://gpsesourcing.cabinetoffice.gov.uk>

Further information can be obtained from: The above mentioned contact point(s)

Specifications and additional documents (including documents for competitive dialogue and a dynamic purchasing system) can be obtained from: The above mentioned contact point(s)

Tenders or requests to participate must be sent to: The above mentioned contact point(s)

I.2) Type of the contracting authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority, including their regional or local sub-divisions

I.3) Main activity

Economic and financial affairs

I.4) Contract award on behalf of other contracting authorities

Section II: Object of the contract

II.1) Description

II.1.1) Title attributed to the contract by the contracting authority:

Service Provision for Financial Management Reform Costing Programme.

II.1.2) Type of contract and location of works, place of delivery or of performance

Services

Service category No 27: Other services

Main site or location of works, place of delivery or of performance: Primarily in the UK with some limited requirements overseas.

NUTS code UK

II.1.3) Information about a public contract, a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system (DPS)

The notice involves the establishment of a framework agreement

II.1.4) Information on framework agreement

Framework agreement with several operators

maximum number of participants to the framework agreement envisaged: 5

Duration of the framework agreement

Duration in months: 24

Estimated total value of purchases for the entire duration of the framework agreement

Estimated value excluding VAT:

Range: between 10 000 000 and 40 000 000 GBP

II.1.5) Short description of the contract or purchase(s)

Her Majesty's Treasury (HMT) is seeking to establish a Framework Agreement for the provision of Financial Management Reform Costing Programme Services for HMT and other UK Central Government Departments and their Arm's Length Bodies (ALBs) and agencies; Non-Ministerial Departments and Executive Agencies; and the Wider Public Sector (and any future successors to these organisations).

The duration of this Framework Agreement is for a 2-year period. The Contracting Authority may extend the duration of this Framework Agreement for any period or periods up to a maximum of 2 years in total from the expiry of the Initial Framework Period for a maximum of 2 consecutive further terms, each of these terms being up to a maximum of 12 months duration. Any extension will be exercised at the sole discretion of the Contracting Authority.

The main aim of this Framework Agreement is to support a more accurate costing and build costing capability across Her Majesty's Government (HMG). The Supplier shall work in partnership with the Contracting Authority and/or Other Contracting Authorities in delivering individual Costing Projects to drive understanding of costs in difficult, cross-cutting areas of Government spend.

A detailed description of the Services that the Potential Provider will be required to supply under this Framework Agreement are set out in full in Part A (Services) of Framework Schedule 2 of the Framework Agreement.

II.1.6) Common procurement vocabulary (CPV)

79412000, 66170000, 66171000, 79400000, 79410000, 79411000, 79412000

II.1.7) Information about Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

The contract is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA): yes

II.1.8) Lots

This contract is divided into lots: no

II.1.9) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: no

II.2) Quantity or scope of the contract

II.2.1) Total quantity or scope:

This Procurement is being managed and facilitated by Crown Commercial Service (CCS) (referred to as the Agent). The Agent is acting on behalf of the Contracting Authority throughout the Procurement process. The Financial Management Reform Costing Programme Framework Agreement will be between the successful Suppliers and the Contracting Authority and/or Other Contracting Authorities, not the Agent.

The Framework Agreement comprises of a single Lot which will be awarded to multiple Suppliers. The rationale for this decision is based on the constraints on public expenditure. Costing Projects can help identify efficiencies or transformative opportunities, particularly in complex, cross-cutting areas of government spend.

This Procurement has not been sub-divided into separate lots because the HMT's Costing Centre of Excellence is required to deliver Costing Projects which will result in raising internal costing capabilities widely within different organisations across the whole of HMG. Delivering Costing Projects under a single lot will enable HMT to create a single version of what HMG spends on public services, and will improve HMT's ability to improve the robustness, relevance, consistency and timeliness of spending data to support effective monitoring

of public spending by the centre of HMG. This in turn will enable the identification cost savings and improve cost effectiveness, and facilitate HMT to share costing capability more widely, in order to help HMG meets its objectives under the Financial Management Review.

The Contracting Authority and/or Other Contracting Authorities require external expertise and flexible resource to assist in the delivery of the Financial Management Reform Costing Programme. The Services required will include the provision of effective skills transfer and advice; including industry leading skills and expertise to supplement the capabilities of the Costing Centre of Excellence in the delivery of the Services required as detailed in Part A (Services) of Framework Agreement Schedule 2.

The Costing Centre of Excellence is made up of Contracting Authority and other HMG personnel with a purpose to ensure that internal costing capability is raised. Costing Projects will be undertaken according to best practice, and costing capability will be shared more widely across government.

Estimated value excluding VAT:

Range: between 10 000 000 and 40 000 000 GBP

II.2.2) **Information about options**

Options: yes

Description of these options: The Framework Agreement will be awarded for an initial term of 24 months, with an option to extend the duration for any period or periods up to a maximum of 2 years in total from the expiry of the Initial Framework Period for a maximum of 2 consecutive further terms, each of these terms being up to a maximum of 12 months duration. Any extension will be exercised at the sole discretion of the Contracting Authority.

II.2.3) **Information about renewals**

II.3) **Duration of the contract or time limit for completion**

Section III: Legal, economic, financial and technical information

III.1) **Conditions relating to the contract**

III.1.1) **Deposits and guarantees required:**

Potential Providers will be advised if this is necessary during the Procurement. Parent company and/or other guarantees of performance and financial liability may be required by the Contracting Authority if considered appropriate.

III.1.2) **Main financing conditions and payment arrangements and/or reference to the relevant provisions governing them:**

III.1.3) **Legal form to be taken by the group of economic operators to whom the contract is to be awarded:**

No legal form is required but if a contract is awarded to a Group of Economic Operators, the Contracting Authority may require the Group of Economic Operators to form a legal entity before entering into the Framework Agreement.

III.1.4) **Other particular conditions**

The performance of the contract is subject to particular conditions: no

III.2) **Conditions for participation**

III.2.1) **Personal situation of economic operators, including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers**

Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if the requirements are met: Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if the requirements are met; Potential Providers will be assessed in accordance with Section 5 of Chapter 2 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015, (implementing Title II, Chapter III, Section

3, Sub-section I of Directive 2014/24/EU), on the basis of information provided in response to an Invitation to Tender ('ITT').

This Procurement will be managed electronically via the Agents e-Sourcing Suite. To participate in this Procurement, participants must first be registered on the e-Sourcing Suite. If you have not yet registered on the eSourcing Suite, this can be done online at: <https://gpsesourcing.cabinetoffice.gov.uk> by following the link 'Register for CCS eSourcing'. Please note that, to register, you must have a valid DUNS number (as provided by Dun and Bradstreet) for the organisation which you are registering, who will be entering into a contract if invited to do so.

Full instructions for registration and use of the e-Sourcing Suite can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/become-a-crown-commercial-service-supplier/becoming-a-supplier-through-the-crown-commercial-service-what-you-need-to-know>

Once you have registered on the eSourcing Suite, a registered user can express an interest for a specific procurement. This is done by emailing: expressionofinterest@crowcommercial.gov.uk

Your email must clearly state:

- the name and reference for the procurement you wish to register for;
- the name of the registered Supplier; and
- the name and contact details for the registered individual sending the email.

The Agent will process the email and then enable the Supplier to access the Procurement online via the e-Sourcing Suite. The registered user will receive a notification email to alert them once this has been done. As a user of the e-Sourcing Suite you will have access to e-Sourcing Suite email messaging service which facilitates all messages sent to you and from you in relation to any specific RFX event. Please note it is your responsibility to access these emails on a regular basis to ensure you have sight of all relevant information. For technical assistance on use of the e-Sourcing Suite please contact Crown Commercial Service Support Desk email: enablement@crowcommercial.gov.uk

Responses must be published by the date in IV.3.4).

III.2.2) **Economic and financial ability**

Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if the requirements are met: Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if the requirements are met: potential Providers will be assessed on the basis of information provided in response to an ITT.

The ITT can be accessed at: <https://gpsesourcing.cabinetoffice.gov.uk> using the instructions detailed in III.2.1).

The Agent may take into account any of the following information:

- (a) appropriate statements from banks or, where appropriate, evidence of relevant professional risk indemnity insurance;
- (b) the presentation of financial statements or extracts from the financial statements where the position of financial statements is required under the law of the country in which the economic operator is established;
- (c) a statement of the undertaking's overall turnover and, where appropriate, of turnover in the area covered by the contract for a maximum of the last 3 financial years available, depending on the date on which the undertaking was set up or the economic operator started trading, as far as the information on these turnovers is available.

Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required: As stated in the ITT.

III.2.3) **Technical capacity**

Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if the requirements are met:

Potential Providers will be assessed in accordance with Section 5 of the Regulations implementing the Directive, on the basis of information provided in response to an ITT. The Agent may take into account the following information:

- (a) a list of the principal deliveries effected or the main Services provided in the past 3 years, with the sums, dates and recipients, whether public or private, involved. Where necessary in order to ensure an adequate level of competition, Contracting Authorities may indicate that evidence of relevant supplies or Services delivered or performed more than 3 years before will be taken into account; and
- (b) an indication of the technicians or technical bodies involved, whether or not belonging directly to the economic operator's undertaking, especially those responsible for quality control and, in the case of public works contracts, those upon whom the contractor can call in order to carry out the work.

The ITT can be accessed at: <https://gpsesourcing.cabinetoffice.gov.uk> using the instructions detailed in III.2.1).

Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required:
As stated in the ITT.

III.2.4) **Information about reserved contracts**

III.3) **Conditions specific to services contracts**

III.3.1) **Information about a particular profession**

Execution of the service is reserved to a particular profession: no

III.3.2) **Staff responsible for the execution of the service**

Legal persons should indicate the names and professional qualifications of the staff responsible for the execution of the service: no

Section IV: Procedure

IV.1) **Type of procedure**

IV.1.1) **Type of procedure**

Open

IV.1.2) **Limitations on the number of operators who will be invited to tender or to participate**

IV.1.3) **Reduction of the number of operators during the negotiation or dialogue**

IV.2) **Award criteria**

IV.2.1) **Award criteria**

The most economically advantageous tender in terms of the criteria stated below

1. Quality. Weighting 70
2. Price. Weighting 30

IV.2.2) **Information about electronic auction**

An electronic auction will be used: no

IV.3) **Administrative information**

IV.3.1) **File reference number attributed by the contracting authority:**

RM4681

IV.3.2) **Previous publication(s) concerning the same contract**

no

IV.3.3) **Conditions for obtaining specifications and additional documents or descriptive document**

Payable documents: no

IV.3.4) **Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate**

27.11.2015 - 15:00

IV.3.5) **Date of dispatch of invitations to tender or to participate to selected candidates**

IV.3.6) **Language(s) in which tenders or requests to participate may be drawn up**
English.

IV.3.7) **Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender**
in days: 120 (from the date stated for receipt of tender)

IV.3.8) **Conditions for opening of tenders**
Place:
Electronically, via web-based portal.

Section VI: Complementary information

VI.1) **Information about recurrence**

This is a recurrent procurement: no

VI.2) **Information about European Union funds**

The contract is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: no

VI.3) **Additional information**

This Framework Agreement will be accessible for use by all UK Central Government Departments and their Arm's Length Bodies and agencies; Non-Ministerial Departments and Executive Agencies; and the Wider Public Sector (and any future successors to these organisations). As at the publication of this Contract Notice the latest list of these Contracting Authorities can be found in the Office for National Statistics' Public Sector Classification Guide — Sept 2015 (see the 'Central Government' worksheet in the 'Public Sector Classification Guide — Sept 2015' spreadsheet found at: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/na-classification/national-accounts-sector-classification/classification-update-and-forward-workplan--september-2015/rft-table-1.xls>

Entities which are not public sector bodies may also use the Framework Agreements if the Contracting Authority is satisfied that:

— such entity is Call Off Agreement Services directly, solely and exclusively in order to satisfy contractual obligations to 1 or more public sector bodies, all of which are entitled to use the Framework Agreements on their own account;

— all goods to be called-off by it are to be used directly, solely and exclusively to provide energy at sites occupied by such public sector body(ies); and

— it will pass the benefit of the call-off contract to such public sector body(ies) directly, in full and on a purely 'pass-through' basis. Accordingly there must be no mark-up, management fee, service charge or any similar cost solely in relation to the supply of energy imposed on the relevant public sector body(ies), who must be able to benefit from the terms of the Framework Agreements in a like manner and to the same extent as if using the Framework Agreements on its/their own account.

This Framework Agreement will also be accessible for use by any corporation established, or a group of individuals appointed to act together, for the specific purpose of meeting needs in the general interest, not having an industrial or commercial character, and

(i) financed wholly or mainly by another Contracting Authority listed above in this section VI.3) of this notice;

(ii) subject to management supervision by another Contracting Authority listed above in this section VI.3) of this notice; or

(iii) more than half of the board of directors or members of which, or, in the case of a group of individuals, more than half of those individuals, are appointed by another Contracting Authority listed above in this section VI.3) of this notice;

(iv) an association of or formed by one or more of the Contracting Authorities listed above in this section VI.3) of this notice.

Potential Providers should note that there may be some disruption to the eSourcing Suite during the Tender Period. The Agent will notify all Potential Providers in advance of any disruption. In the event of any disruption timetable will be adjusted accordingly.

Potential Providers should note that, in accordance with the UK Government's policies on transparency, the Agent intends to publish the Invitation to Tender (ITT) document and the text of any Framework Agreement awarded, subject to possible redaction's at the discretion of the Agent. The terms of the proposed Framework Agreement will also permit a public sector Contracting Authority, awarding a contract under this Framework Agreement, to publish the text of that contract, subject to possible redaction's at the discretion of the Contracting Authority. Further information on transparency can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/procurement-and-contracting-transparency-requirements-guidance>

The Agent expressly reserves the right:

(i) not to award any contract as a result of the Procurement process commenced by publication of this notice; and

(ii) to make whatever changes it may see fit to the content and structure of the tendering competition; and in no circumstances will the Contracting Authority be liable for any costs incurred by the Potential Provider.

If the Contracting Authority decides to enter into a Framework Agreement with the successful Supplier, this does not mean that there is any guarantee of subsequent contracts being awarded.

Any expenditure, work or effort undertaken prior to contract award is accordingly a matter solely for the commercial judgement of Potential Providers.

Any orders placed under this Framework Agreement will form a separate contract under the scope of this Framework Agreement between the Supplier and the specific requesting Other Contracting Authorities. The Contracting Authority and Other Contracting Authorities utilising the Framework Agreement reserve the right to use any electronic portal during the life of the Framework Agreement.

The duration referenced in Section II.1.4) is for the placing of orders.

The value provided in Section II.1.4) is only an estimate. The Contracting Authority does not provide any guarantee in respect of the levels or aggregate value of the Services which the Contracting Authority shall require the Supplier to provide during the Framework Period.

In reference to Section II.1.4), Maximum number of participants allowed. Framework Agreements will be concluded with the maximum number of Potential Providers. This may increase only where 2 or more Potential Providers have tied scores and are placed in the last position. The Contracting Authority will award a Framework Agreement to additional Potential Providers where their Final Score is within 1 % of the original awarded last place position only. For the avoidance of doubt, last position is 5th.

VI.4) Procedures for appeal

VI.4.1) Body responsible for appeal procedures

VI.4.2) Lodging of appeals

VI.4.3) Service from which information about the lodging of appeals may be obtained

VI.5) Date of dispatch of this notice:

26.10.2015